मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि बैंक के सवाल को बिल्कुल अलग रखा गया है उससे भविष्य में विकासशील देशों को अनेक फसलों के बीजों को लेने में कई कठिनाइयां आएंगी। इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि क्या मंत्री महोदय के जहन में यह सवाल आया है क्योंकि वर्ल्ड बैंक ने पहले यह निर्णय ले लिया है कि वह उनको पेटेंट मोनोपली देने वाला है। तो इसका हमारे देश की फसलों पर क्या असर पड़ेगा... (व्यवधान)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Uniform Policy for conducting examinations by CBSE

*142. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that because of high rate of cheating, the Central Board of Secondary Education has introduced multiple sets of question papers for the Delhi Region for the last two years;

(b) if so, how far the new system has curbed cheating;

(c) what are the reasons for adopting different methods for different regions; and

(d) whether Government propose to introduce a uniform policy for all the regions, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) As a part of the efforts to eliminate mass copying and the use of unfair means, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), introduced multiple sets (four in number) of question papers for the first time in 1992 secondary (Class X) and Senior Secondary (Class XII) Examinations conducted by the Board in the Union Territory of Delhi.

With the introduction of multiple sets of question papers, the Board has succeeded in achieving the desired objective because there was not a single incident of mass copying in the Class X and Class XII Examinations conducted by the Board in Delhi in 1992, as against mass copying incidents reported in 20 examination centres of Delhi in 1991.

The reason for adopting multiple sets of question papers in Delhi was high incidence of mass copying in the CBSE Examinations in the Delhi centres in 1991. As the Board did not receive reports of mass copying in the 1991 Examinations conducted in other regions and foreign centres, use of multiple sets in 1992 Examinations outside Delhi was not introduced by the Board.

A Committee specially set up by the Board to review the impact of the system introduced in Delhi in 1992 recommended the uniform application of use of multiple sets of question papers in future Class X and Class XII Examinations in all the regions of the Board including the foreign centres. The recommendation has been approved by the Governing Body of the Board in its meeting held on 24-6-1992. The other Boards of Secondary/Higher Secondary Education of the country being autonomous bodies following their own independent examination and academic policies, are free to adopt or adopt this system as per their own discretion.

CBI enquiry into the losses suffered by the Food Corporation of India

*145. 145. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of investigation has made any inquiry into the huge losses suffered by the Food Corporation of India during transit from the Ramnagar godown at Silchar;

(b) if so, the actual amount of losses suffered by the FCI so far in this regard;

(c) whether some FCI officials have been identified as being responsible for these losses;

(d) if so, the details of such officials and the total period during which they remained posted at the Silchar depot; and

(e) the action Government have taken or propose to take against those officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Questions do not arise.

De-reservation of Minerals

*146. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for de-reservation of all the minerals now reserved for the public sector, to facilitate investment by N. R. Is; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALARAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Government are reviewing the position to examine whether some minerals now reserved for the public sector should be de-reserved.

Education Bank

*147. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 617 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th February, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are pursuing the policy of self financed higher education;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to arrange soft loans from banks for the poor and middle class students, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the girl students of lower classes would be given concession in fees; and

(d) whether Government have received any suggestions directly or through media to start Education Bank?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Government's policy on financing of education is spelt out in the National Policy on Education, 1986 (NPE), which postulates that "Resources, to the extent possible, will be raised by mobilishing donations asking the benficiary communities to maintain school buildings and supplies of some consumables, raising fees at the higher levels of education and effecting some savings by the efficient use of facilities. Institutions involved with research and the development of technical and scientific manpower should also mobilize some funds by levying a cess or charge on the user agencies, including Government departments, and entrepreneurs. All these measurs will be taken not only to reduce the burden on State resources but also for creating a greater sense of responsibility within the educational system".

(b) Commerical Banks are already providing need-based finance under the "Educational Loans" scheme.